



IFU1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )  
Kris Edward HANSEN ) Group Art Unit: 3632  
Serial No.: 10/728,841 ) Examiner: Tan Le  
Filed: December 8, 2003 ) Attorney Docket No. 005230.00007  
For: Method, System And Apparatus For )  
Guiding And Supporting An Elongated Flexible )  
Member )

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**  
**AND ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement of the outstanding Office Action mailed April 22, 2004, applicant provisionally elects, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group II, claims 18-30, drawn to a guiding and supporting member.

In response to the Election of Species requirement contained in the Office Action, applicant provisionally elects, without traverse, Species XV – Figures 21-22. Claims 18-22, 24, 25 and 27-29 read on this elected species.

Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications to the invention of non-elected Group I and Group III during the pendency of the present application.

No fees are believed due with this submission. However, if any fees are required, the Commission is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Brian E. Hanlon  
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Dated: May 24, 2004